

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended)      A sock, in particular for the use with sports activities, that is padded in the treading area and comprises pads (2, 3, 4) in the inner and outer areas of the balls of the foot, in the area of the heel, as well as in the outer instep, and that has intermediate spaces (6) between the pads (2, 3, 4), and that the pads (2, 3, 4) are made of fabric and are constructed and arranged to optimally adapt to the load profile of the foot, and the pads being directed outwardly from the sock.

2. (Previously Presented)      A sock as in claim 1, wherein there is a pad on the ball of the foot (4) in the area of the inner and outer ball, the fabric of which is dissimilar in structure to the fabric of the other pads.

3. (Previously Presented)      A sock as in Claim 2, wherein there the pad (4) on the ball of the foot is made up of multiple sections.

4. (Previously Presented)      A sock as in Claim 1, wherein there is a sickle-shaped toe pad (5) arranged in the area of the toes.

5. (Previously Presented)      A sock as in Claim 2, wherein there is a sickle-shaped toe pad (5) arranged in the area of the toes.

6. (Previously Presented)      A sock as in Claim 3, wherein there is a sickle-shaped toe pad (5) arranged in the area of the toes.

7. (Previously Presented)      A sock as in Claim 4, wherein the toe pads (5) are made up

of multiple individual pads (51 through 55).

8. (Previously Presented) A sock as in Claim 7, wherein the fabric of the individual pads (51-55) is dissimilar in structure.

9. (Previously Presented) A sock as in Claim 1, wherein the pads (2, 3, 4) have varying degrees of firmness.

10. (Previously Presented) A sock as in Claim 4, wherein the pads (2, 3, 4, 5) have varying degrees of firmness.

11. (Previously Presented) A sock as in Claim 5, wherein the pads (2, 3, 4, 5) have varying degrees of firmness.

12. (Previously Presented) A sock as in claim 1, wherein at least one side climate conduit (7) is provided that leads into at least one of the intermediate spaces (6) on the treading area (1) created between the separate pads (2 through 5).

13. (Previously Presented) A sock as in claim 4, wherein at least one side climate conduit (7) is provided that leads into at least one of the intermediate spaces (6) on the treading area (1) created between the separate pads (2 through 5).

14. (Previously Presented) A sock as in claim 5, wherein at least one side climate conduit (7) is provided that leads into at least one of the intermediate spaces (6) on the treading area (1) created between the separate pads (2 through 5).

15. (Previously Presented) A sock as in claim 10, wherein at least one side climate conduit (7) is provided that leads into at least one of the intermediate spaces (6) on the treading

area (1) created between the separate pads (2 through 5).

16. (Currently Amended) A sock, in particular for the use with sports activities, that is padded in the treading area and comprises pads (2, 3, 4) in the inner and outer areas of the balls of the foot, in the area of the heel, as well as in the outer instep, and that has intermediate spaces (6) between the pads (2, 3, 4), wherein toe pad (5) is located in the area of the toes and is sickle-shaped and that the pads (2, 3, 4) are made of fabric and at least one side climate conduit (7) is provided that extends along the side of the sock and leads into one intermediate space (6) on the treading area (1) created between the separated pads (2 through 5).

17. (Previously Presented) A sock as in claim 16, wherein there is a pad on the ball of the foot (4) in the area of the inner and outer ball, the fabric of which is dissimilar in structure.

18. (Currently Amended) A sock as in Claim 16, wherein the toe pads (5) ~~that~~ are made up of multiple individual pads (51 through 55).

19. (Previously Presented) A sock as in Claim 16, wherein there is a sickle-shaped toe pad (5) arranged in the area of the toes.

20. (Previously Presented) A sock as in Claim 16, wherein the pads (2, 3, 4) have varying degrees of firmness.

21. (Previously Presented) A sock as in Claim 19, wherein the pads (2, 3, 4, 5) have varying degrees of firmness.

22. (Previously Presented) A sock as in Claim 17, wherein the pads (2, 3, 4, 5) have varying degrees of firmness.